

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:3 encoding a haemopoietin receptor comprising an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or a derivative of said receptor.

2. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:3 encoding a haemopoietin receptor comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or a derivative thereof, wherein said receptor:

- (i) binds with IL-13 or its derivatives; and
- (ii) binds with a complex between IL-4 and IL-4 receptor α -chain.

3-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides which encodes an IL-13 receptor α -chain or a derivative thereof, said nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 under low stringency conditions, wherein said low stringency conditions comprise 6x SSC, 0.1% w/v SDS at 42°C.

8. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides which encodes an IL-13 receptor α -chain or a derivative thereof having an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

9. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 or 2 or 7 or 8 which encodes a haemopoietin receptor capable of interaction with IL-13 or its derivatives, which interaction is capable of competitive inhibition by IL-4 or a derivative thereof in cells which express an IL-4 receptor α -chain.

10. (Previously Presented) An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 or 7 operably linked to a promoter which directs expression of said nucleic acid molecule in a host cell.

11-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 or 2 or 7 or 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

26-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a recombinant polypeptide having at least two of the following characteristics:

- (i) comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4;
- (ii) is encoded by a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3;
- (iii) binds with IL-13 or its derivatives; and

(iv) said polypeptide, when expressed in COS cells, has a molecular weight of from about 50,000 to about 70,000 daltons as determined by Western blot analysis,

said method comprising culturing cells comprising the expression vector according to claim 10 for a time and under conditions sufficient to express the nucleic acid molecule in said expression vector to produce a recombinant polypeptide and isolating said recombinant polypeptide.

29. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a recombinant polypeptide having at least three of the following characteristics:

- (i) comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4;
- (ii) is encoded by a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3;
- (iii) binds with IL-13 or its derivatives;
- (iv) said polypeptide, when expressed in COS cells, has a molecular weight of from about 50,000 to about 70,000 daltons as determined by Western blot analysis;
- (v) comprises an amino acid sequence derived from IL-4 receptor α -chain; and
- (vi) is capable of interaction with IL-13 which is competitively inhibited by IL-4 in cells which express an IL-4 receptor α -chain,

said method comprising culturing cells comprising the expression vector according to claim 10 for a time and under conditions sufficient to express the nucleic acid molecule in said expression vector to produce a recombinant polypeptide and isolating said recombinant polypeptide.

30. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An isolated host cell which expresses the recombinant polypeptide produced by the method according to claim 28.

31-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An isolated host cell which expresses the recombinant polypeptide produced by the method according to claim 29.

37. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence as set forth SEQ ID NO: 3.

38. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides which encodes an extracellular domain of [[a]] an IL-13 haemopoietin receptor.

39. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 38 wherein said extra-cellular domain is an immunoglobulin-like domain.

40. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 38 wherein said extra-cellular domain is a haemopoietin receptor domain.

41. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 39 wherein said immunoglobulin-like domain consists essentially of amino acids 28-118 of SEQ ID NO:4.

42. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 40 wherein said haemopoietin receptor domain consists essentially of amino acids ~~119-341~~119-342 of SEQ ID NO:4

43. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 37, encoding a polypeptide consisting essentially of amino acids ~~26-345~~28-346 of SEQ ID NO:4.

44. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 37, encoding a polypeptide consisting essentially of amino acids ~~26-426~~²⁸⁻⁴²⁶ of SEQ ID NO:4.

45. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An isolated host cell which expresses the haemopoietin receptor encoded by SEQ ID NO:3.

46. (Previously Presented) The host cell of any one of claims 30, 36 or 45 wherein said host cell is an animal cell.

47. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a recombinant polypeptide comprising culturing cells comprising the expression vector according to claim 10 for a time and under conditions sufficient to express a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 in said expression vector and isolating said recombinant polypeptide.

48. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid sequence of Claim 37 wherein said sequence consists essentially of nucleotides ~~136-1095~~¹⁴²⁻¹⁰⁹⁸ of SEQ ID NO: 3.

49. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid sequence of claim 37 wherein said sequence consists essentially of nucleotides ~~136-1338~~¹⁴²⁻¹³³⁸ of SEQ ID NO: 3.

50. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid sequence of claim 37 wherein said sequence consists essentially of nucleotides ~~142-414~~⁴¹⁵⁻¹⁰⁸³~~415-1086~~ of SEQ ID NO: 3.

51. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid sequence of claim 37 wherein said sequence consists essentially of nucleotides ~~415-1083~~⁴¹⁵⁻¹⁰⁸⁶~~415-1086~~ of SEQ ID NO: 3.

52. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 38 comprising the

amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.